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Petition to Establish Tolerances for Chemical Flupyradifurone - First Food Use

Comment On: EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0226-0007

Public Participation Memorandum for New Active Ingredient Flupyradifurone

Document: EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0226-0020

Anonymous public comment

Submitter Information

General Comment

I am an extension specialist for citrus IPM in California. I have worked with flupyradifurone since 2009 and screened it against a number of citrus pests. I find the product to be very effective against citricola scale, which is a key pest in the central valley of California. Because flupyradifurone is a new mode of action, it will be helpful not only because it is effective against citricola scale, but because in rotation with other products it will help reduce the risk of resistance developing. In Florida, it has been shown to be effective against Asian citrus psyllid (ACP). This insect is a vector of the deadly bacterium that causes huanglongbing disease in citrus. The psyllid has made its way to California and the disease will soon follow. Effective products that are part of a rotation for ACP are essential for managing the pest and disease and preventing resistance. In addition, flupyradifurone is bee safe and could be used during bloom. We are currently lacking bee safe insecticides for ACP control. This is especially important in the lemon crop that blooms throughout the year. Flupyradifurone causes sucking insects to stop feeding, which will be helpful for reducing the rate that huanglongbing spreads. Flupyradifurone is an important new

tool for managing citrus pests that will help reduce ineffective insecticide applications and manage the vector of a devastating disease of citrus.